

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: DAVID, Guy

SERIAL NO.:

FILED: Herewith

TITLE: DEVICE FOR SEPARATING THE HARD COMPONENTS OF A GRINDER USED IN THE FIELD OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY, AND IN PARTICULAR FOR THE MINCING OF MEAT

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Device for separating the hard components for a grinder used in the field of the food industry, and more particularly of the mincing of meat, of the type comprising, downstream of one or several cutting assemblies each comprised of a star-shaped cutter with several legs and a grid having more or less large openings, said device comprising:

a grid (1) for stopping said hard components which is associated with a separating cutter (2) designed capable of draining said hard components towards the center, in order to cause them to pass between said cutter (2) and said grid (1) into a collecting tube (4) intended at being connected to a discharge pipe, said collecting tube (4) being screwed into a supporting grid or spider (5) according to an adjustable depth with a possibility of blocking, through a counter-nut (40), in order to adapt its position with respect to said separating cutter (2), characterized in that wherein said collecting tube (4) includes, on the one hand, comprises an axial recess (41) capable of receiving the an end (30) of the driving shaft (3) of the cutters of said grinder, so that the latter can be held transversely and rotate in it and, on the other hand, peripherally with respect to said axial recess (41),

at least one channel-(42) capable of allowing the transit of said hard components towards said discharge pipe.

2. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the wherein said axial recess-(41) of the collecting tube-(4) intended at receiving the end-(30) of the driving shaft-(3) is provided with comprised of a ring-(43).

3. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 2, characterized in that the wherein said collecting tube-(4) has further comprises an axial channel-(41) surrounded by a plurality of peripheral channels-(42) with axes parallel to said axial channel-(41).

4. (Currently amended) Device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the Claim 1, wherein said axial channel-(41) and the peripheral channels-(42) extend in the collecting tube-(4) over a portion of the latter.

5. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 or claim 4, characterized in that, wherein outer ends-(44) of the peripheral channels-(42) are beveled.